

CivXNow

A PROJECT OF iCIVICS



A Roadmap for Strengthening Democracy through K-12 Civic Education August 14, 2021

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Catalyzing a Movement: The CivXNow Coalition



iCivics launched the CivXNow Coalition in 2018; it contains 172 cross-ideological partners spanning the country, united in pursuit of stronger K-12 civic education policies



ActiVote



ADL
FIGHTING HATE FOR GOOD



aft sharemy lesson
By Educators, For Educators



Afterschool Alliance



ALLIANCE FOR DECISION EDUCATION



America FORWARD



AMERICA SCORES



AMERICA'S PROMISE ALLIANCE



ABA
AMERICAN BAR ASSOCIATION



ABOTA
FOUNDATION



THE AMERICAN DEMOCRACY
ADMC MONTH COUNCIL



AMERICAN HERITAGE
EDUCATION FOUNDATION



AMERICAN HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION



THE ANNEBERG
PUBLIC POLICY CENTER
OF THE UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA



THE ASPEN INSTITUTE
Citizenship & American Identity
*** program



ASU School of Civic and Economic Thought and Leadership
Arizona State University

The field was long undercapitalized and disorganized, but CivXNow is aggregating networks, developing policies, supporting coalitions, and lobbying directly for K-12 civics

Aggregating Networks	Developing Policies for High Quality Civic Education	Supporting Coalitions and Coaching Influencers	Lobbying
<p>Aggregation of the interests of the national civic education community, including activation of their stakeholders for policy advocacy and implementation</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● State policy Menu ● Federal Policy 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● State Policy Task Force and Technical Assistance ● Federal Policy Task Force ● Speaking engagements 	<p>A limited amount of direct lobbying for the federal Civics Secures Democracy Act and selected state campaigns</p>



Our theory of change embraces federal and state policy reforms to strengthen K-12 civic learning as a driver of demand for civics programming and teacher professional development

Federal and state policy reforms

Civics included in state mandates and embedded in student and school accountability measures



Demand for civics programming and teacher PD

Course requirements and accountability measures necessitate classroom resources and PD



Resources and PD improve practice, foster students' civic development

Students develop the civic knowledge, skills, attitudes, and behaviors necessary for lifelong, informed, effective engagement in our constitutional democracy



Federal policy overview



CSD is a bipartisan \$1 billion federal bill making a transformational national investment in K-12 civics

CIVICS SECURES DEMOCRACY ACT



Invests in American history and civics



Protects the health of our constitutional democracy



Expands access to American history and civics



Empowers students to participate in our constitutional democracy

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Filed by Reps. Delauro (D-CT), Cole (R-OK), and Blumenauer (D-OR) and Sens. Coons (D-DE) and Cornyn (R-TX), CSD supports

- **Civic Education and Evaluation:** 60% of funds to states with 95% of funding passed through to LEAs, must agree to the NAEP civics and history tests.
- **Qualified nonprofit organizations,** through competitive grants
- **Professional development:** Competitive grant funding to train teachers with a priority allocation of 35% of the funds to HBCUs and other MSIs. Additional funding for educator diversification program (Prince Hall fellowship)
- **Data Infrastructure:** 20% of funds to nonprofits for innovation that must include evaluation of project funded; NAEP framework update, administering test biannually at 4th/8th/12th grade, disaggregating data by state etc.
- **Research:** Higher education funding linkage to K-12
- **Madison and Truman Fellowships:** Strengthening their endowments

Our goal remains to pass CSD with a bipartisan majority during the current Congress

**I SUPPORT
CIVICS SECURES DEMOCRACY ACT**

BECAUSE I CARE ABOUT:

- Accessible civic education
- Adequate training for educators in civics
- Meeting the needs of underserved students
- Strengthening the future of our democracy

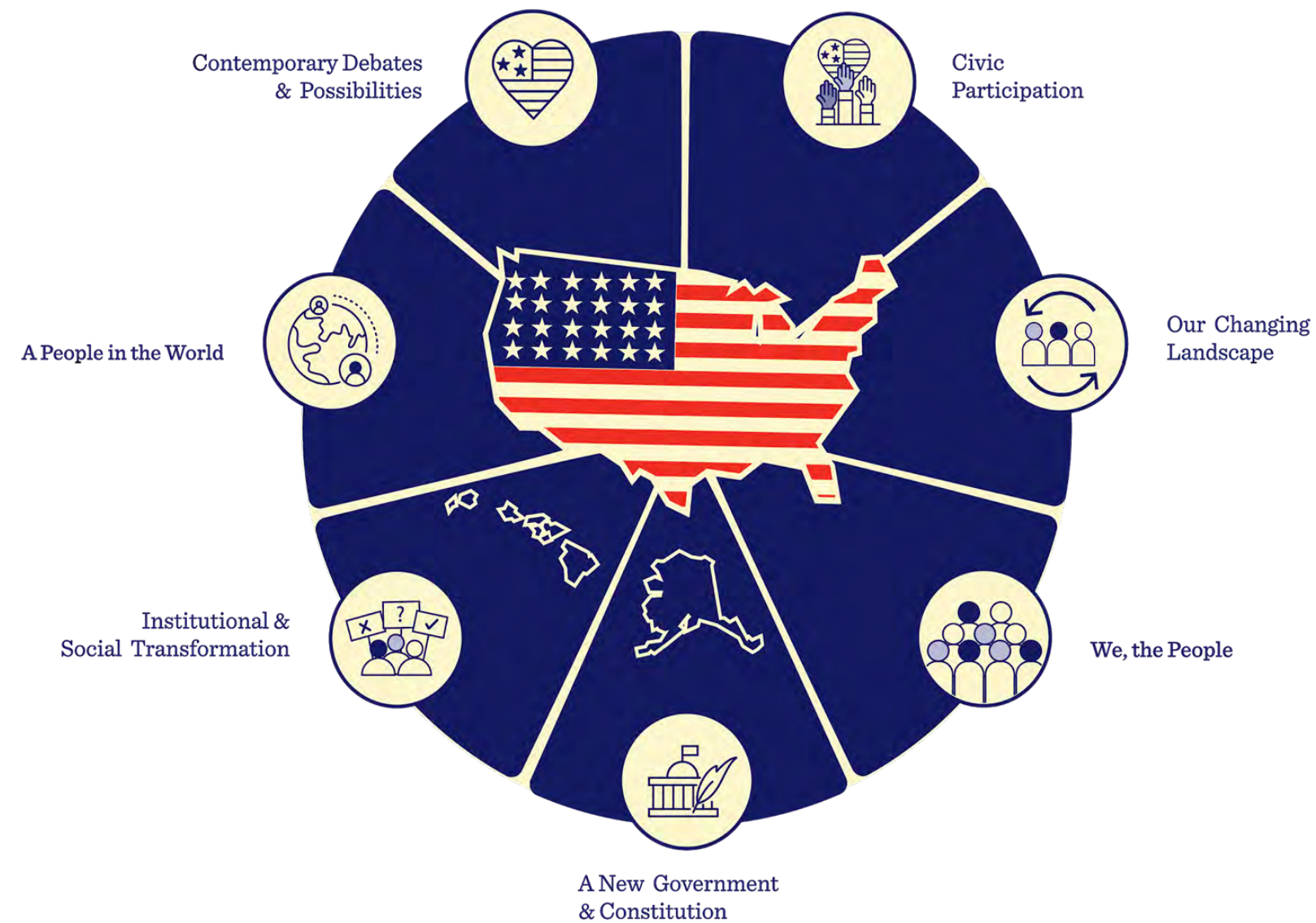
DO YOU? TAKE ACTION TODAY!

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State policy overview



The Educating for American Democracy (EAD) Roadmap provides a framework for for teachers, schools, districts, and states to transform K-12 civic education



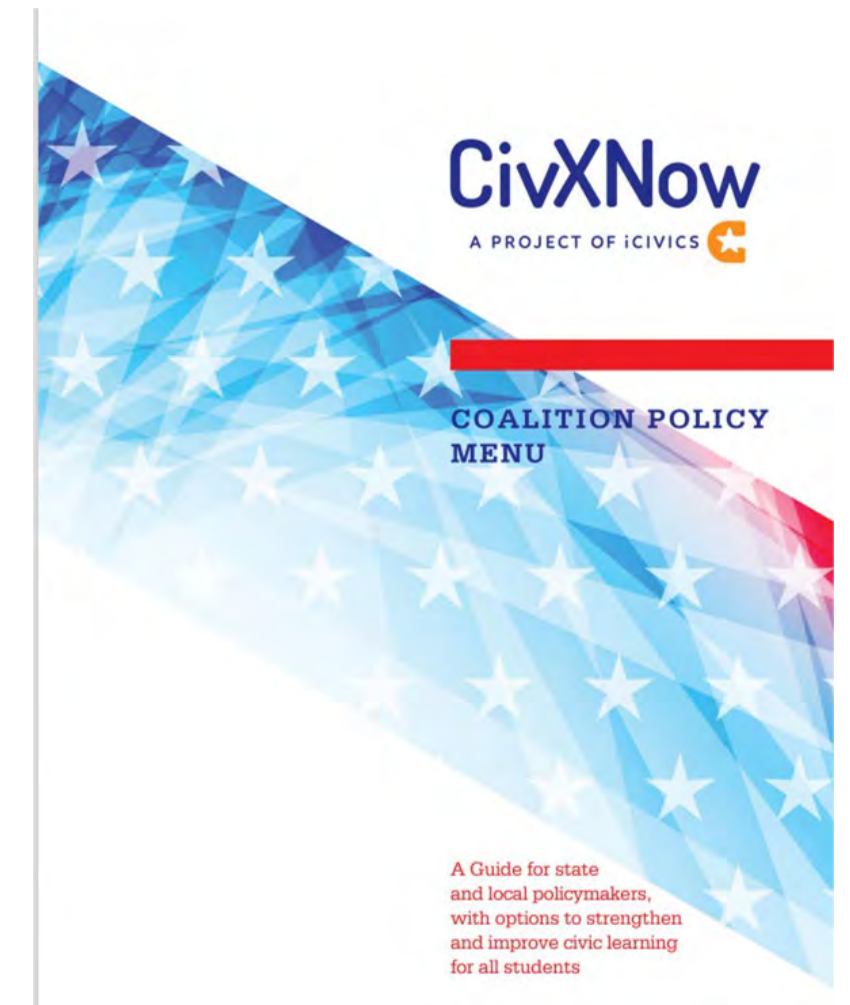
Includes:

- Instructional strategies for every grade level
- A website of curated examples
- Local, state, and federal implementation recommendations

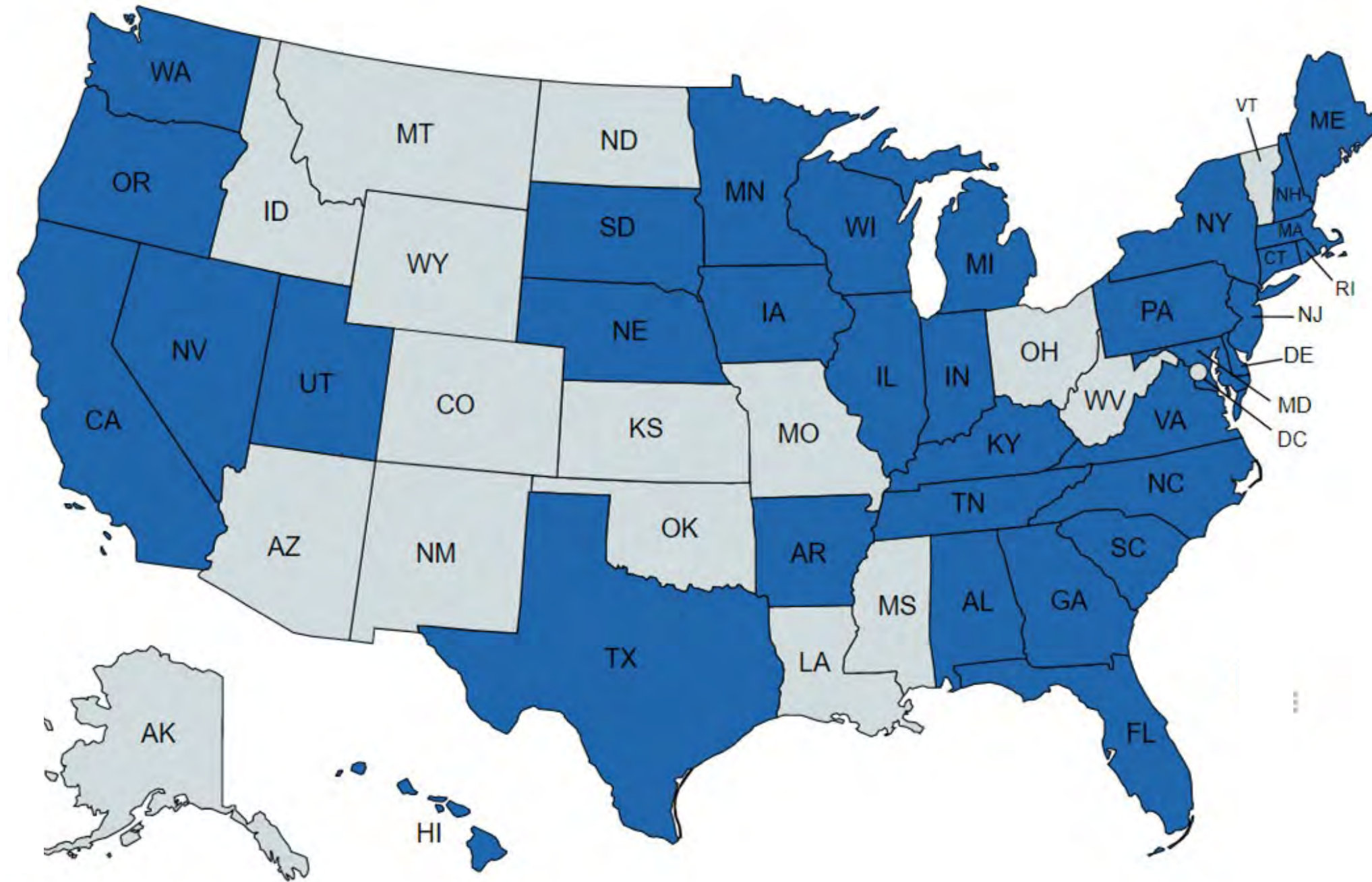
The CivXNow State Policy Menu provides task force members with policy alternatives adaptable to local context and aligned with EAD

Key provisions:

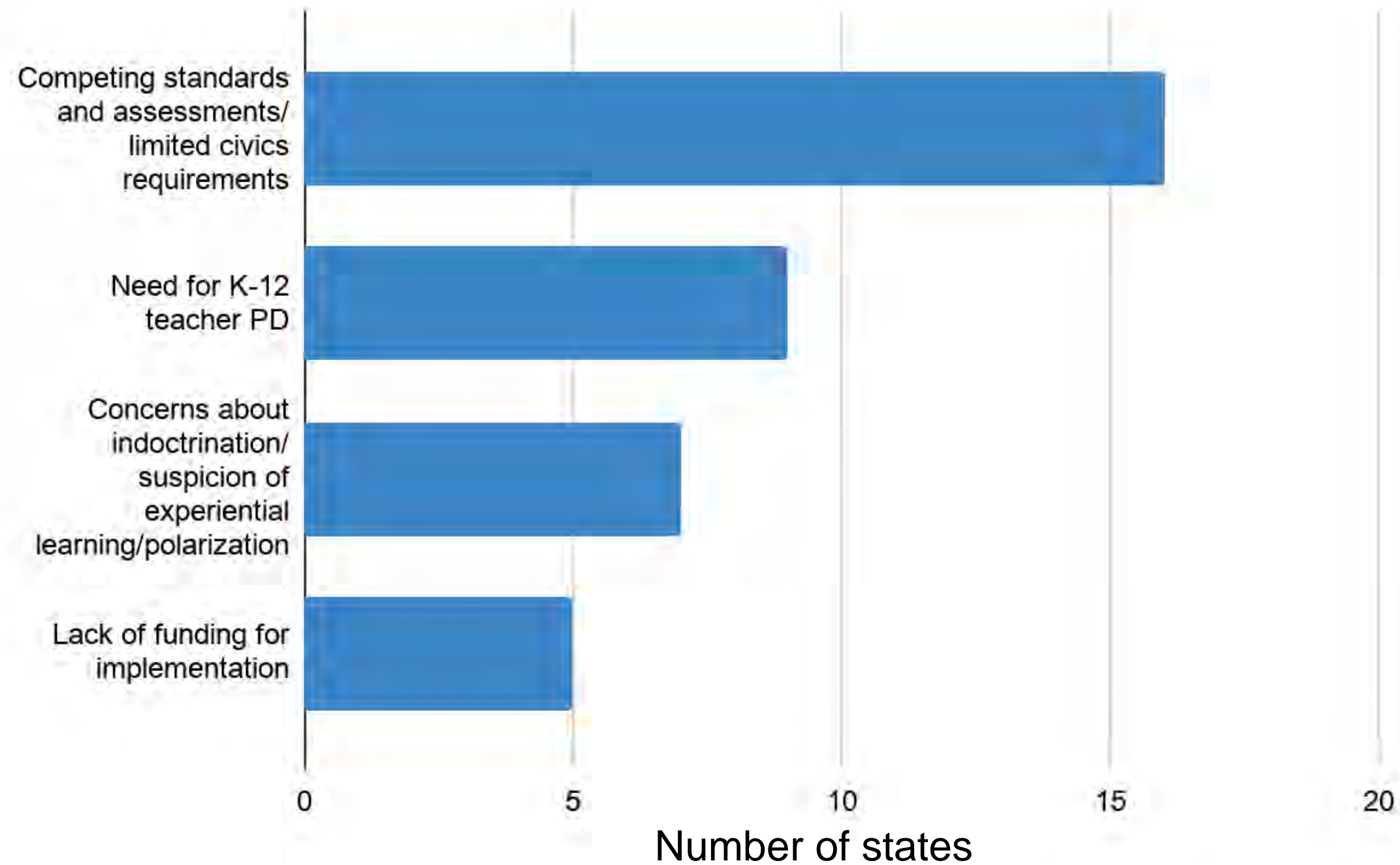
1. Universal, equitable access to high-quality civic learning experiences
2. Civics centered in state standards
3. Assessment and accountability
4. Pre- and in-service teacher professional development
5. Schoolwide and community commitments to civic learning
6. Resourcing policy implementation



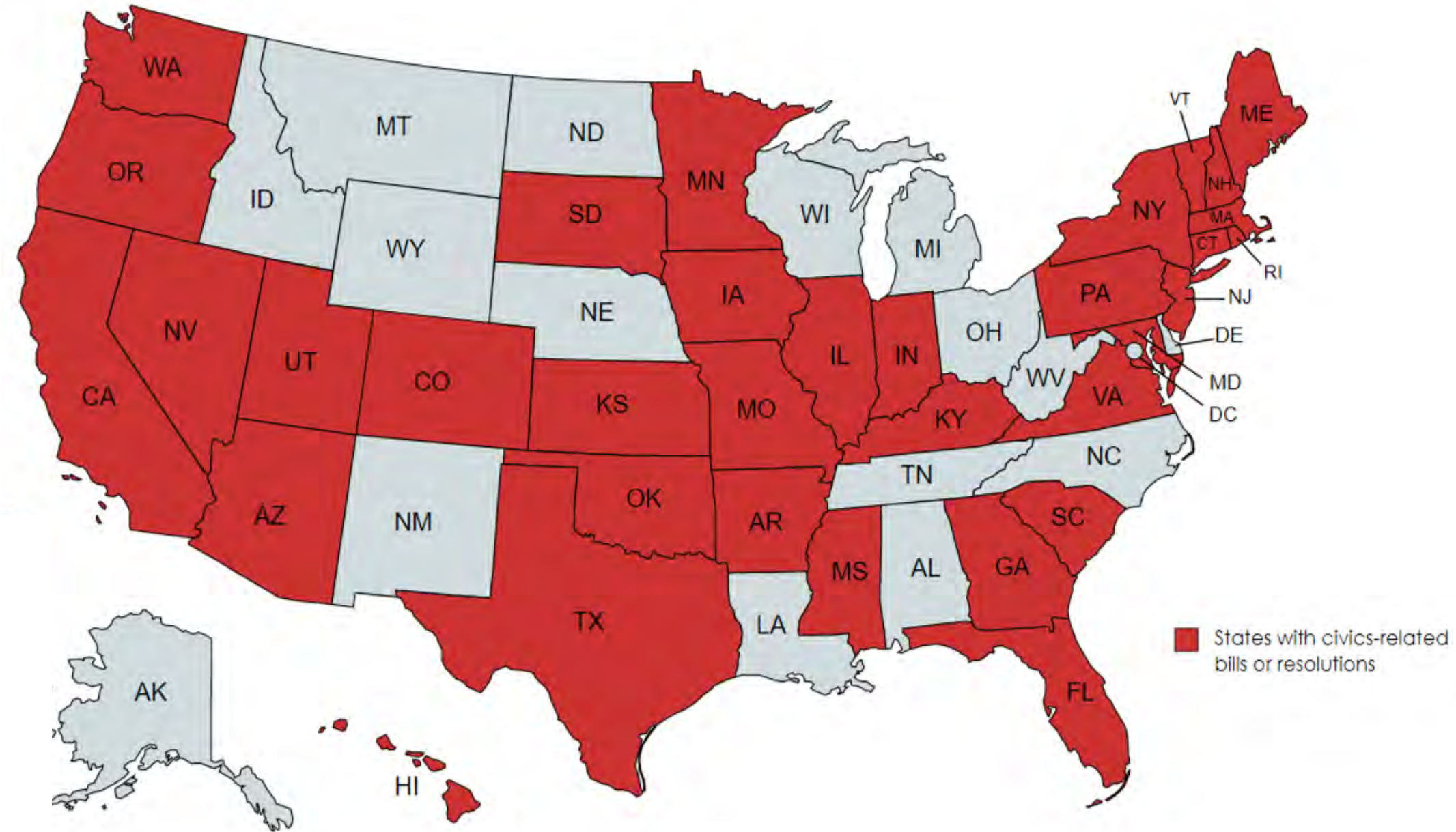
Our CivXNow State Policy Taskforce convenes monthly as a community of practice with representation from 34 states



A survey of task force members shows competing standards and limited course requirements are among biggest challenges to civic learning in states



We tracked nearly 90 bills concerning civics this spring in at least 34 state legislatures, some of which drew directly from the policy menu



State policy task force members made notable progress amid this spring flurry

- SB 67 in Colorado strengthens state civics content requirements (signed by Governor)
- SB 146 in Florida, which would institute civic literacy practicums for high school students along with a citizen scholar recognition program (vetoed by Governor)
- HB 214 in Illinois would require a unit of media literacy in high school (signed by Governor)
- **HB 1384 in Indiana, which includes a middle school course requirement, strengthens state civics standards, and establishes a state civic education commission (signed by Governor)**
- **S 854 in New Jersey would instate a middle school civics course and provide funding for the New Jersey Center for Civic Education (signed by Governor)**
- Nevada's SB 194 would establish a civics seal and strengthen civics and service learning requirements in social studies courses (passed Senate)
- **Oregon's S 513 requires a semester of civics in high school (signed by Governor)**
- **Rhode Island's S 76 requires high school students to complete a semester or course in civics (signed by Governor)**
- Utah's H 124 introduces a civic education pilot program for the 2021-2022 school year (signed by Governor)
- Virginia's HB 1940 allows students to have an excused absence from school for selected civic engagement activities (signed by Governor)
- Washington's legislature provided \$250K per year for 2021-23 for the state education department to develop culturally responsive civics curriculum, provide competitive grants to districts for PD and curriculum development, and assess civic learning outcomes.



CivXNow Policy Summit



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POLICY SUMMIT

SAVE — THE — DATE

Tuesday, September 21 • 11AM-3PM ET
Wednesday, September 22 • 12-5PM ET

((())) VIRTUAL LIVESTREAM

All Americans must understand our democracy at the local, state, and federal level. We need high quality civic education. Please save the date for the CivXNow Policy Summit spotlighting the need for civic education and discussing opportunities to accelerate progress during 2021-2022 legislative sessions.

Together we can ensure that civic learning remains central to every states' goals.

With support from  **CIVXNOW.ORG**

Our inaugural CivXNow Policy Summit on September 21st-22nd will highlight progress to date and catalyze movement for further wins at the state and federal level in 2022 and beyond

- Governors in the lead (Gov. Kate Brown, D-OR)
- Role of philanthropy
- Federal policy progress (Rep. Rosa DeLauro, D-CT)
- Civics as a national security priority (featuring Secretary Robert Gates)
- State legislators (representing GA, IL, IN, and MA)
- Chief state school officers (NY, WA, and WY)
- History keynote (Ken Burns and Lonnie Bunch)

Thank
You!

